

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SECURING FIBER CHANNEL DRIVE ACCESS IN  
A PARTITIONED DATA LIBRARY****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A storage area network associated data library partitioning system comprises a plurality of storage slot elements adapted to store data storage media, at least one set of at least one of the slots is assigned to one partition of a plurality of partitions, and a plurality of data transfer elements that are adapted to receive the media and transfer data to and from the media, each of at least one set of at least one of the data transfer elements is assigned to one of the partitions, at least one data transfer element of each of the partitions hosts a logical element designation of a virtual controller for each of the partitions, the virtual controllers restricting movement of the media to between the set of slots and the set of data transfer elements assigned to a same of the partitions.

P.0361128.1